

Message Text

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61

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 PM-04 SSO-00 INR-07 INRE-00 SP-02

MMO-01 PER-01 L-03 ABF-01 SIL-01 H-02 /048 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:RWAHERNE:BH

APPROVED BY NEA:SSOBER

M:MR.MAYS

PM/SAS:MR.WINSHIP

----- 115817

O 040201Z MAR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 052229

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, SA, US

SUBJECT: CORPS OF ENGINEERS STAFFING LEVEL AND PROJECT
WORKLOAD IN SAUDI ARABIA

REF: STATE 32445

1. CONTRARY TO INFORMATION EARLIER PROVIDED BY CORPS AND INCORPORATED IN REFTEL, CORPS NOW ADVISES THAT THEIR ON-BOARD STAFF IN SAUDI ARABIA AT PRESENT TOTALS ABOUT 260-275. THEY EXPLAIN THAT THE 200 FIGURE GIVEN REFTEL APPLIED IN OCTOBER, WHEN REALIGNMENT WAS FIRST DISCUSSED, AND THAT LEVEL HAS INCREASED BY 60-ODD SINCE THEN.

2. THESE CORPS INCREASES (IF INDEED THEY HAVE TAKEN PLACE; REQUEST CONFIRMATION) WERE EFFECTED WITHOUT CONSULTATION WITH DEPARTMENT, NOR FOR THAT MATTER WITH DOD/ISA. WAS EMBASSY INFORMED OF INCREASES BEFORE THEY WERE MADE, AND
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GIVEN OPPORTUNITY TO APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE THEM?

3. A MEMBER OF THE DOD TEAM WHICH VISITED SAUDI ARABIA IN JANUARY WAS PROVIDED, BY CORPS REPS IN RIYADH, WITH A "WORK LIST" WHICH THE CORPS IN SAUDI ARABIA CONSIDERS A DEFINITIVE LIST OF PROJECTS FOR WHICH IT IS RESPONSIBLE. TEXT FOLLOWS:

-- SAUDI ARABIA DISTRICT

PROJECTS UNDER PLANNING AND/OR DESIGN EST.COST,MIL DOLS

KING KHALED MILITARY CANTONMENT (AL BATIN)..... 3,378

SAUDI NAVAL EXPANSION PROGRAM (SNEP)
JIDDA, JUBAIL..... 1,200

MODA MEDICAL CENTER, AL-KHARJ..... 3,500

MODA MEDICAL AIR EVACUATION NETWORK..... 100

MODA MEDICAL MATERIALS DEPOT SYSTEM..... 1,500

TAIF GENERAL HOSPITAL..... 1,900

PHASE II MEDICAL SUPPORT FACILITIES-
TABUK, KHAMIS, AND JIDDA..... 30

AIRBORNE AND PHYSICAL TRAINING SCHOOL,
TABUK..... 169

CANTONMENT ADDITIONS, TABUK..... 113

FAMILY HOUSING, KHAMIS MUSHAYT..... 150

INFANTRY CENTER, KHAMIS MUSHAYT..... 213

ARTILLERY CENTER, KHAMIS MUSHAYT..... 211

CANTONMENT ADDITIONS, KHAMIS MUSHAYT..... 300
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MILITARY MUSEUM AND LIBRARY, RIYADH..... 6

MODA HEADQUARTERS BUILDING REHABILITATION,
RIYADH..... 35

RSAF HEADQUARTERS BUILDING, RIYADH..... 121

KING ABDUL AZIZ MILITARY ACADEMY..... 2,000

COMBINED OPERATIONS CENTER, RIYADH..... 12

SANG VEHICLE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (VMP)..... 357

SANG MODERNIZATION PROGRAM..... 893

PROJECTS UNDER PLANNING AND/OR DESIGN EST.COST,MIL DOLS

SANG HEADQUARTERS COMPLEX..... 156

MODA MILITARY SEA PORTS..... 300

RSAF ACADEMY (SITE NOT SELECTED BY MODA)..... ?

PEACE HAWK PHASE V (ESTIMATE)..... 300

TOTAL.....16,944

4. OF THE PROJECTS ON THIS LIST, OUR RECORDS SHOW THAT ONLY SOME HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND THE EMBASSY IN ACCORDANCE WITH WHAT IS SUPPOSED TO BE STANDARD PROCEDURE, I.E., SUBMISSION OF A LETTER FROM THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE (OR COMMANDER OF THE NATIONAL GUARD) TO THE AMBASSADOR REQUESTING IN-PRINCIPLE AGREEMENT FOR THE CORPS TO MANAGE A GIVEN PROJECT. SPECIFICALLY, WE HAVE NO RECORD OF APPROVAL FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ON THE CORPS LIST:

- A. MODA MEDICAL CENTER, AL-KHARJ
 - B. MODA MEDICAL AIR EVACUATION NETWORK
 - C. MODA MEDICAL MATERIALS DEPOT SYSTEM
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- D. TAIF GENERAL HOSPITAL
- E. PHASE II MEDICAL SUPPORT FACILITIES
- F. AIRBORNE AND PHYSICAL TRAINING SCHOOL, TABUK
- G. MILITARY MUSEUM AND LIBRARY, RIYADH
- H. COMBINED OPERATIONS CENTER, RIYADH

WITH RESPECT TO MILITARY SEAPORTS, WE RECENTLY FORWARDED A 300 MIL DOL LETTER OF OFFER TO CONGRESS UNDER FMS PROCEDURES. FOR THE RECORD, HOWEVER, WE FIRST HEARD OF THIS ITEM WHEN REQUESTED TO APPROVE SUBMISSION OF THE LETTER OF OFFER, AND HERE TOO WE HAVE NO RECORD OF EMBASSY APPROVAL.

5. WE WILL BE TAKING ACTION HERE TO REGULARIZE PROCEDURES FOR ADJUSTING CORPS STAFFING LEVEL, CONSISTENT WITH SECTION

12, P.L. 93-475, AND DEPARTMENT'S OPRED/MODE RESPONSIBILITY
TO MONITOR REIMBURSABLES IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES. WOULD
APPRECIATE ANY COMMENT YOU MAY HAVE ON STAFFING LEVEL OR
PROJECT APPROVAL ISSUES, OR ANY OTHER ASPECT OF CORPS
ACTIVITIES IN SAUDI ARABIA AND THEIR RELATION TO THE
EMBASSY.
KISSINGER

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